

# ANTI-TRAFFICKING NEWS BULLETIN

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

*Civil Rights Division Leaders Visit Indonesia* 3

*DOJ Convenes Trafficking Task Forces for Strategic Planning* 4

*Major Trafficking Conviction in Maryland* 6

*National Symposium on Federal Crime Victims Focuses on Trafficking Victims* 7



## NEW GRANT SOLICITATION

The **Office of Justice Programs** announced a grant program that will award funds to state and local anti-trafficking task forces to enhance human trafficking efforts and supplement victim services.

For more information on this high priority initiative, see Page 10.

## Attorney General Gonzales Affirms Justice Department's Commitment to Battling Human Trafficking

In a February 28 speech at the Hoover Institution's Board of Overseers Conference, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales pledged to "move aggressively" in the battle against human trafficking. Characterizing trafficking in persons as "one of the most pernicious moral evils in the world today," he underscored that eradicating this form of modern-day slavery remains a top priority of the Bush Administration.

The Attorney General also highlighted the twenty anti-trafficking task forces and working groups, which are comprised of investiga-

tors and prosecutors from the federal, state, and local levels, as well as non-governmental organizations, that the Department of Justice has helped establish over the last year. He also encouraged the nation's governors and state legislatures to criminalize human trafficking as part of their own penal codes. In this vein, he referenced the model state anti-trafficking law that the Justice Department introduced last summer and promised to send a copy "to every governor and legislative leader in those 40-plus states that do not yet have their own anti-trafficking laws."



Attorney General Alberto Gonzales

To see a copy of the model state trafficking law, go to the following Department of Justice link:

[http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/crim/model\\_state\\_law.pdf](http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/crim/model_state_law.pdf)

## Civil Rights Division Leaders Assess Trafficking Situation in Cambodia

In January 2005, in furtherance of President Bush's ongoing initiative to combat international human trafficking, Deputy Assistant Attorney General Bradley J. Schlozman and Senior Counsel T. March Bell traveled to Cambodia to assess the nation's current anti-trafficking efforts. Cambodia, along with Mexico, Brazil, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Moldova, India, and Indonesia, is at the center of the Administration's focus to tackle this alarming epidemic.

Deputy Assistant Attorney General Schlozman put the matter in perspective

when he noted, "It is nothing short of shocking to walk through the neighborhoods of Phnom Penh and see *children*, some of whom look like they are no older than nine or ten years old, being forced to prostitute themselves. You simply cannot forget those images, especially when you see American children of that same age safely attending fourth or fifth grade. We must do whatever we can to address this problem."

During their assessment, Schlozman and Bell joined with representatives of the Departments of State and

Homeland Security to identify both the nation's trafficking needs and the resources available to meet those needs. They analyzed the following: (1) governmental personnel devoted to the issue, (2) applicable criminal law, (3) the structures in place to prosecute those in violation of such laws, and (4) the overall process of victim identification, rescue, and restorative care.

Ultimately, the American delegation met with senior Cambodian government leaders, members of the country's "trafficking po-

Continued on Page 2, Cambodia

## CAMBODIA, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Deputy Assistant Attorney General Schlozman put the matter in perspective when he noted, "It is nothing short of shocking to walk through the neighborhoods of Phnom Penh and see *children*, some of whom look like they are no older than nine or ten years old, being forced to prostitute themselves. You simply cannot forget those images, especially when you see American children of that same age safely attending fourth or fifth grade. We must do whatever we can to address this problem."



(l. to r.) Deputy Assistant Attorney General Bradley J. Schlozman, Senior Trafficking Counsel T. March Bell, and Cambodian Chief Justice Dith Munty.

lice" unit, and various non-governmental organizations to discuss the aforementioned issues.

Several factors have hindered Cambodia's efforts to fight trafficking. These include a lower educational level for judges than in most countries; and a court system that lacks essential, uniform criminal procedures and rules of evidence, which produces the foreseeable problem of judicial inconsistency.

The Cambodian government is proactively attempting to remedy perceived inadequacies. First, anti-trafficking legislation is being developed to establish guidelines, which will presumably facilitate enforcement. Next, a new "judges school" has been established to better educate the future of the judicial

branch. At the same time, state police are receiving training catered specifically to the prosecution of trafficking cases. Finally, there is a growing and much-needed level of cooperation among law enforcement officials, prosecutors, and judges.

Another noted point of concern was Cambodia's lack of an *guardian ad litem* system. Without such a system in place, there is no true entity to evaluate and protect the well-being of the victims.

Along these same lines, an additional and obvious worry is related to victim security. Criminals are persistently us-



Photo of the main courtroom in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The two blue chairs in front of the judge's bench are where the defendant and victim sit during trial.



Ms. Un Sokunthea, the Director of Cambodia's Department of Anti-Trafficking and Juvenile Protection, and her staff with Senior Trafficking Counsel T. March Bell, Deputy Assistant Attorney General Bradley Schlozman, and Department of Homeland Security official Anne Estrada.

ing physical intimidation as a tool to counteract the work of NGOs. In response, NGOs have been forced to hire personal body guards to protect both themselves and the victims they oversee. Several NGOs are now suggesting new ideas to improve security and collaboration with the National Trafficking in Persons Police Unit.

Despite these challenges, many senior officials in the Cambodian government appear committed to immediate reform.

## CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION ASSESSES ANTI-TRAFFICKING EFFORTS IN INDONESIA

In February 2005, Senior Counsel T. March Bell led an American delegation to Indonesia to assess the status of that nation's anti-trafficking efforts. As do all countries, Indonesia presents its own set of unique challenges in the battle against human trafficking.

First, low education and high poverty rates render many Indonesian communities vulnerable to human trafficking. Also, the string of recent natural disasters near Sumatra have disrupted ordinary patterns of life, which has a further destabilizing effect, which can encourage trafficking. As a result, Indonesia has seen significant trafficking within its borders, serving not only as a destination, but also as a source and transit country. In response to this growing problem, the Indonesian Parliament has recently begun the process of passing initial anti-trafficking legislation.

Indonesia is taking steps to combat widespread trafficking. For example, the government funds "police hospitals," operated by law enforcement agencies, which each establish a special wing for trafficking victims and provide essential health care, counseling, and legal assistance. Moreover, the hospitals offer a much needed secure setting where victims remain until they can be referred to a suitable NGO for longer term care.

Governmental efforts are also underway to help sensitize law enforcement officials

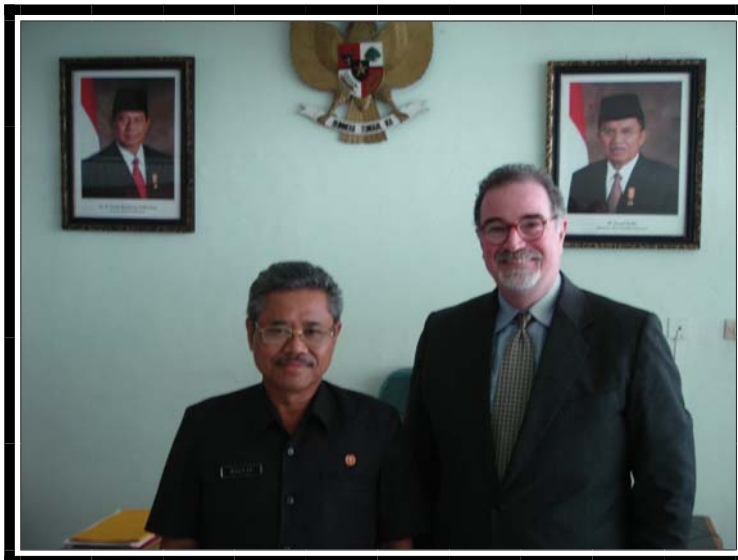
to the cultural phenomena contributing to trafficking. As a result, some provincial police offices now designate female staff to handle complaints of domestic and sexual abuse and other forms of human trafficking. Given a more considerate and sympathetic setting, victims will now feel more at ease to report trafficking violations.

investigation through sentencing.

The U.S. government has given substantial assistance to aid Indonesia's anti-trafficking efforts. Besides general funding, the Criminal Division's International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program ("ICITAP") has provided police training on how to identify and interview victims and coordinate with NGO service providers. These synchronized efforts have produced an increase in cases and arrests, and plans are now underway to expand the Indonesian program throughout President Bush's Anti-Trafficking Initiative.

Coordinated efforts to increase cooperation between federal agencies and Southeast Asian countries are expected to grow over the next few years.

The Indonesian government has also implemented a case tracking program, which allows officials to follow domestic abuse and trafficking cases from the early stages of



Senior Counsel Bell met with Indonesian Deputy Attorney General Bambang Waluyo to discuss prosecutions strategy and Indonesian evidentiary standards.

Besides general funding, the Criminal Division's International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program ("ICITAP") has provided police training on how to identify and interview victims and coordinate with NGO service providers.



## JUSTICE DEPARTMENT CONVENES TRAFFICKING TASK FORCES FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING AND TRAINING

On February 23, 2005, Civil Rights Division personnel participated in a human trafficking training summit in Houston, sponsored by the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) and organized by the private Institute for Intergovernmental Research. The event brought together many key partners from anti-trafficking task forces throughout the country for three days of training, planning and strategic problem solving.

OJP's Acting Assistant Attorney General, Tracy Henke, opened the event. "It is a privilege," she said, "to share your dedication to overcoming an unimaginable human rights crime that is taking place today in the United States. I have great admiration for the commitment each of you brings to the mission to combat human trafficking." Henke specifically noted the distinct and vital roles played by task force members:

- The State, Local, and Federal Law Enforcement Officials, whose ability to identify that a crime has taken place, can provide the first step towards freedom for victims.
- The Immigration Agents, whose ability to recognize the unusual, provide an early detection system.
- The Prosecutors, whose ability to carefully recreate the investigations, take traffickers off the streets and out of society.
- The Victims Advocates, whose ability to gain the trust of people suffering from severe emotional and physical abuse, help to restore hope and rebuild lives.

The Houston event served as a follow-up to the Department of Justice's July 2004 National Conference on Human Trafficking,

which precipitated the formation of multiple trafficking task forces. The task forces participants, who represented task forces from twenty cities across the country, focused on each partner's role in the investigation and prosecution of perpetrators, as well as the provision of restorative care for victims.

The event also followed the Justice Department's recent distribution of \$7.6 million in grants to local law enforcement agencies to fund costs associated with their participation in these working groups. "This type of event is the next logical step in the development of a national response to the sinister crime of exploiting vulnerable victims in a modern day form of slavery," noted T. March Bell, Senior Counsel for Trafficking in the Civil Rights Division.

Building on the foundation established at last July's national trafficking conference, the instructors in Houston, who were veteran trafficking investigators, prosecutors, and NGOs, concentrated on solving specific investigatory and victim-related difficulties. "This is our first training that has really been designed to drill down into the details of anti-trafficking actions by multi-disciplinary teams," observed Bell. "The instructors here rolled up their sleeves with the task force members to work through challenges and solutions, and I think it was an extremely productive experience."

The Institute on Intergovernmental Research received high marks from all meeting participants for the curriculum they assembled and the professional implementation of the conference. Participants benefited from the training and planning, and many were encouraged by discussions of newly opened trafficking cases initiated by the task forces.

"This type of event is the next logical step in the development of a national response to the sinister crime of exploiting vulnerable victims in a modern day form of slavery," noted T. March Bell, Senior Counsel for Trafficking in the Civil Rights Division.



### Did You Know?

**The Thirteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution outlaws slavery and involuntary servitude. The Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (VTVPA) supplements existing laws and establishes new tools and resources to combat trafficking in persons and to provide services and protections for victims. Read more about the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000:**

<http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/crim/traffickingsummary.html>

## CASE SPOTLIGHT

### UNITED STATES V. CARRETO

On April 5, 2005, the Civil Rights Division and the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York scored a huge victory in the fight against human trafficking when three defendants, Josue Flores Carreto, Gerardo Flores Carreto, and Daniel Perez Alonso, pled guilty to all 27 counts of a superseding indictment charging them with forcing young Mexican women to engage in commercial sex acts. The prostitution, which occurred in brothels throughout the New York City metropolitan area, spanned a period of approximately fourteen years, from 1991 to 2004. The defendants, all Mexican nationals, are members of the Carreto family sex trafficking ring that operated between Tenancingo, Mexico and Queens, New York. Three other defendants, Eloy Carreto Reyes, Eliu Carreto Fernandez, and Edith Mosquera de Flores, pled guilty in 2004 for their roles as members of the Carreto criminal organization. Two additional defendants remain incarcerated in Mexico on related Mexican federal charges.

During plea allocutions, defendants Josue Flores Carreto, Gerardo Flores Carreto,

and Daniel Perez Alonso admitted to recruiting numerous young, uneducated Mexican women from impoverished backgrounds, smuggling them from Mexico into the United States, and forcing them to engage in prostitution. The defendants acknowledged that they used physical force against the victims on numerous occasions, causing serious bodily injury. They beat the victims for hiding money, for failing to earn enough money, and for disobeying the defendants' orders. The defendants admitted that they used threats of serious harm and physical restraint to force the young Mexican women to commit multiple acts of prostitution on an almost daily basis. Of the money earned by the victims from committing acts of prostitution, the defendants acknowledged that half was taken by the owners of the brothels, and the other half taken by the defendants. The money taken by the defendants was either kept by them or sent to co-conspirators in Mexico.

This case was first brought to the attention of federal authorities in the summer of 2003 when a complaint was made at the United States Embassy in

Mexico City that members of the Carreto family were forcing young Mexican women into prostitution in New York City. In response, federal agents from the New York and New Jersey offices of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, working in conjunction with the New York City Police Department, raided two apartments in Queens, New York on January 4, 2004. In these apartments, law enforcement officers found defendants Josue Flores Carreto, Gerardo Flores Carreto, Daniel Perez Alonso, Eliu Carreto Fernandez, and five young Mexican women.

The prosecution of this case represents one of the government's largest sex trafficking cases to date brought under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act ("TVPA"). A date has not yet been set for sentencing. Senior Litigation Counsel Anne Milgram represented the Civil Rights Division on the prosecution. She was joined by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Daniel R. Alonso, Monica E. Ryan, and Pamela Chen.



"The defendants beat the victims for hiding money, for failing to earn enough money, and for disobeying the defendants' orders."



**MORE INFORMATION ON THE EVILS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND THE LATEST ANTI-TRAFFICKING EFFORTS IS AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT:**

<http://www.usdoj.gov/trafficking.htm>

## CASE SPOTLIGHT

### UNITED STATES V. MUBANG

"This repeated and prolonged physical and mental abuse left Chumbow terrified of ever questioning Mubang's mistreatment and terrified to seek outside help."

The Civil Rights Division recently secured a substantial sentence for a Cameroonian woman who subjected her domestic housekeeper to involuntary servitude. As proven at trial, Theresa Mubang, a former Cameroon national who is now a naturalized United States citizen, brought an 11-year-old Cameroonian national to her home in Silver Spring, Maryland in November 1996 to work as a domestic servant and nanny to her children. While still in Cameroon, Mubang had told the family of the young girl, Evelyn Chumbow, that she would be educated in American schools and given opportunities for a better life. Notwithstanding these promises, however, Mubang isolated Chumbow from family and friends upon her arrival in the United States and required her to cook, clean, and act as a 24-hour nanny for Mubang's young sons.

Over the course of a two-year period, Mubang kept Chumbow almost completely shut off from the outside world. Contrary to Mubang's assurances, Chumbow never went to school, and Mubang did nothing to further her education. Chumbow was not permitted contact with her family in Cameroon or with family members in Maryland, nor was she allowed to become friends with other children her age. Mubang even forbade Chumbow from answering the door or

leaving the home except to complete specific household related tasks.

To further ensure Chumbow's compliance, Mubang physically and verbally abused her, including beating her with fists, a broom handle, a cable, and a high-heeled shoe.

Mubang also mentally abused Chumbow by depriving her of food and sleep. In one example of sadistic punishment, Mubang would force Chum-



bow to stand watch next to Mubang's bed throughout the night. As a result of this sleep deprivation, Chumbow would frequently fall asleep during the day while completing her duties, a fact that would lead to further physical and mental abuse. Mubang would also regularly insult Chumbow, telling Chumbow that she was dirty, lazy, and worthless. This repeated and prolonged physical and mental abuse left Chumbow terrified of ever questioning Mubang's mistreatment or seeking outside help.

Chumbow's family members in the United States eventually discovered her plight and arranged to meet with her in Mubang's

absence. With their help, Chumbow escaped from Mubang's home in December 1998 when Mubang was out of town.

Investigation by federal law enforcement revealed that Chumbow was not the only victim of Mubang's scheme to receive free labor. Prior to Chumbow's arrival in the United States, Mubang had brought another ten-year-old girl into the country with promises of an American education and opportunities for a better life. Like Chumbow, this other young girl was forced to cook, clean, and care for Mubang's young son without compensation. Like Chumbow, she was also subjected to a withering pattern of physical and mental abuse, which stopped only after the earlier victim called the police several times and the State Child Welfare Services intervened. Unfortunately, she was simply sent back to Cameroon, at which point Mubang brought Chumbow to the United States.

Following a three-week trial in U.S. District Court prosecuted by Amy Pope of the Civil Rights Division's Criminal Section, a jury convicted Mubang of harboring Evelyn Chumbow for financial gain and holding her as an involuntary servant. Mubang fled the country following her conviction and was sentenced, in absentia, to 17 1/2 years of imprisonment.

## CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION ATTORNEY RECEIVES AWARD

On March 22, 2005, in Los Angeles, Criminal Section prosecutor Lou de Baca received the anti-trafficking community's premier honor, the Paul and Sheila Wellstone Award, which recognizes individuals who have made a unique or outstanding contribution in combatting human trafficking and slavery in the United States. The award was established in memory of the late Senator Paul Wellstone, and his wife, Sheila, and recognizes both their activism and his key role as a co-sponsor of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. This annual award is given by the Freedom Network, a broad-based national consortium of social and legal services

providers who do hands-on case management with victims of trafficking and slavery across the United States.

At a ceremony attended by over 200 individuals at the National Japanese American Museum, de Baca was presented the award by survivors of the notorious "El Monte Thai sweatshop," a case in which 75 women were enslaved for years in a garment factory in a Los Angeles suburb. In presenting the award, they recognized de Baca's legal and policy ac-



Senior Litigation Counsel Lou de Baca (far right) shown receiving the Paul and Sheila Wellstone Award from the Thai survivors of the El Monte sweatshop trafficking case.

complishments in developing and implementing a "victim-centered" response to these tragic cases, while simultaneously leading the most difficult and complex trafficking prosecutions.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION...

The Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) website is an excellent resource for human trafficking information and materials presented in the workshops at the National Symposiums

<http://www.federalsymposium.org/>

## NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON FEDERAL CRIME VICTIMS FOCUSES ON TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

The Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) held its 4th National Symposium last month in Atlanta. Nearly 800 people, including the Civil Rights Division's victim/witness coordinator, attended the week-long conference, which highlighted the increasing impact of multi-jurisdictional crimes involving multiple agencies. Participants included federal law enforcement officers, criminal investigators, prosecutors, correctional officers, victim coordinators and advocates, military and consular officers, and mental health professionals.

The Symposium devoted numerous workshops to creating appropriate strategies and practices to foster inter-agency collaboration and coordination. Human traf-

ficking issues dominated the event, with multiple sessions dedicated to the challenges faced by federal agencies that encounter human trafficking victims and the critical role played by non-governmental organizations in this area. Panels focused on the specialized needs and issues faced not only by victims themselves, but also by the individuals and organizations that seek to assist the victims: public health screening, treatment of juveniles, interpreter challenges, immigration remedies, psychological impact of trauma, and procedures and policies to access refugee benefits through HHS certification. Conference faculty also addressed the importance of collaboration among agencies in (1) building effective partnerships in victim ser-

vice provision and (2) responding to crime and the increasing international nexus of crimes and services, such as sex tourism and victim repatriation.

As a continuing resource, OVC will make available the materials presented in all the workshops, including those specifically devoted to human trafficking, on its Symposium web site: <http://www.federalsymposium.org/>. Also, on March 16, 2005, OVC hosted an online web chat on trafficking with Florrie Burke from Safe Horizon in New York. Readers can log on to the web site to see the conversation and provide additional comments or questions: <http://ovc.ncjrs.org/ovcproviderforum/asp/about.asp>.

## CASE UPDATES

### United States v. Lopez-Torres (W.D. Tex.)

On December 17, 2004, in Austin, Texas, Maria Magdalena Lopez-Torres was sentenced to 12 years in prison after pleading guilty to importation of an alien for immoral purposes and illegal firearms possession

charges. Ms. Lopez managed an operation where minor females, smuggled from Mexico to Austin, were forced to engage in commercial sex acts.



### United States v. Maka (D. Hawaii)

On December 14, 2004, following a month-long trial, defendant Lue'leni Maka was convicted on 34 counts of violating federal statutes, including 18 U.S.C. §§ 1584 (involuntary servitude), 1589 (forced labor), 1590 (trafficking), 1592 (document servitude), and 8 U.S.C. §1324 (alien smuggling).

The defendant, a landscape maintenance contractor and rock wall builder, was charged with transporting Tongan males to Hawaii, where he then forced them to work in his businesses to repay the transporting expenses. The victims were housed in shacks on the subject's pig

farm and were required to work in excess of 12 hours a day, six days a week, for approximately \$60 to \$100 per week. Maka restricted their movement, hunted down escapees, and beat the men with a number of objects, including a machete and oxygen tank. Sentencing is scheduled to occur on May 26, 2005.



### United States v. Trakhtenberg, et al. (D.N.J. and S.D.N.Y.)

On March 10, 2005, Lev Trakhtenberg was sentenced to 42 months in prison and ordered to pay \$10,000 in restitution following his

guilty plea in December 2004 to extortion (18 U.S.C. § 1951). The Defendant had threatened a victim's family in Russia with physical harm unless they paid money owed by the victim, who had escaped from prostitution. On December 1,



2004, Trakhtenberg also pled guilty to conspiring to commit forced labor, immigration offenses, and visa fraud. He is awaiting sentencing on these charges. Two other defendants were also charged with conspiring to commit forced labor, document fraud, and inducing aliens to unlawfully enter the United States, as well as asset forfeiture, for devising and carrying out a scheme to obtain the labor and services of Russian women.

The female victims were lured to the United States to

perform cultural dance shows and with the promises of good pay and adequate housing accommodations. However, once in the United States, they were forced to perform in strip clubs and threatened with serious harm and physical restraint if they did not do so.

In August 2004, Sergey Malchikov, a co-defendant, pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit forced labor, visa fraud, immigration violations, and extortion. No trial date has been set for the final defendant.



### United States v. Sutherland (W.D. Okla.)

On January 11, 2005, in Oklahoma City, defendant Troy Sutherland was convicted at trial of violating 18 U.S.C. §§ 1591 (sex trafficking) and 2422 (Mann Act).

In this prosecution, "Operation Stormy Nights," nine men were indicted on charges arising from their participation in a large mid-western child prostitution

operation. Eight other defendants previously pled guilty to various Mann Act offenses and were sentenced to prison terms ranging from 41 to 210 months.





## Case Updates—continued

### United States v. Udeozor (D. Md.)

On November 19, 2004, a federal jury in Greenbelt, Maryland convicted a Nigerian woman, Adaobi Stella Udeozor, of conspiring with her husband, George Udeozor, to hold a young Nigerian girl in a condition of involuntary servitude. The jury also convicted Stella Udeozor of harboring her young victim for financial gain, but acquitted her of a substantive involuntary servitude charge. George Udeozor, also charged in the federal indictment with involuntary servitude, fled the United States before

trial and is currently a fugitive.

In 1996, the Udeozors illegally brought the victim to the United States when she was just 14 years old. Once in the United States, the victim was forced to cook, clean, and take care of the defendants' six children without pay. In October 2001, the victim escaped from the defendants' household after calling the police. Federal authorities subsequently began an investigation, led by special agents from the Bureau of Immigration and Customs

Enforcement, which uncovered evidence that Stella Udeozor had conspired with her husband to use threats and physical abuse to force the young girl to continue working for the family without pay. Evidence also revealed that George Udeozor had beaten and repeatedly raped the victim.

The charges against George Udeozor, still pending because of his fugitive status, call for a maximum sentence of life imprisonment. A sentencing date has not yet been set for Stella Udeozor.

### FYI

The Civil Rights Division's Criminal Section has the primary enforcement responsibility for the involuntary servitude and peonage statutes. It works closely with the FBI, U.S. Attorneys Offices, and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section to investigate and prosecute cases of trafficking in persons and worker exploitation. The Civil Rights Division also funds and staffs the national complaint line for reporting trafficking crimes.

### KNOW YOUR STATUTES

#### **TITLE 18 U.S.C. § 1591 - SEX TRAFFICKING OF CHILDREN OR BY FORCE, FRAUD OR COERCION**

*(a) Whoever knowingly-- (1) in or affecting interstate commerce, recruits, entices, harbors, transports, provides, or obtains by any means a person; or (2) benefits, financially or by receiving anything of value, from participation in a venture which has engaged in an act described in violation of paragraph (1), knowing that force, fraud, or coercion described in subsection (c)(2) will be used to cause the person to engage in a commercial sex act, or that the person has not attained the age of 18 years and will be caused to engage in a commercial sex act, shall be punished as provided in subsection (b).*

*(b) The punishment for an offense under subsection (a) is--(1) if the offense was effected by force, fraud, or coercion or if the person recruited, enticed, harbored, transported, provided, or obtained had not attained the age of 14 years at the time of such offense, by a fine under this title or imprisonment for any term of years or for life, or both; or (2) if the offense was not so effected, and the person recruited, enticed, harbored, transported, provided, or obtained had attained the age of 14 years but had not attained the age of 18 years at the time of such offense, by a fine under this title or imprisonment for not more than 40 years, or both.*

### United States v. Trisanti and Nasution (C.D. Cal.)

On March 4, 2005, in Los Angeles, California, Mariska Trisanti was sentenced to 46 months in prison. Additionally, the court issued a tentative restitution order of \$203,000. Trisanti had pled guilty to involuntary servitude (18

U.S.C. § 1584) in March 2004, and a co-defendant, Heri Nasution, had pled guilty to alien harboring in May 2004. Defendant Nasution was sentenced in August 2004 to six months home detention and three years supervised release.

Between March 1996 and March 2003, two victims were trafficked into the United States from Indonesia and forced to work as domestic servants against their will through the use of threats and physical violence.

## OJP ANNOUNCES NEW GRANTS TO FUND ANTI-TRAFFICKING TASK FORCES

The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) recently announced a new funding opportunity for state and local law enforcement partners and service providers who are addressing or plan to address the issue of trafficking in persons. OJP had previously awarded funds to 22 local law enforcement agencies to support their participation in anti-trafficking task forces. Recognizing that far more than 22 local jurisdictions are experiencing trafficking crimes, OJP has decided to establish support for up to 10 additional task forces. To implement the plan, OJP issued a "Joint Call for FY 2005 Human Trafficking Task Force and Victim Services Concept Papers" from state and local law enforcement agencies and victim service agencies as a preliminary step to apply for federal funds to (1) form collaborative human trafficking task forces, or (2) supplement current trafficking victim service provider funding in areas where a

BJA-funded task force already exists. Awards to law enforcement are expected to be up to \$450,000 per award for 3 years. Supplemental awards for victim services are estimated at \$295,000 per award for up to 18 months. In areas where there is no OVC-funded grantee, OVC victim service awards will be up to \$500,000 for 3 years to ensure that the victim services organization and its partners have sufficient funding to establish and maintain a comprehensive strategy for identifying and serving victims of trafficking.

OJP clarified that successful concept papers and subsequent applications will lead to either (1) the development of new task forces dedicated to a comprehensive strategy for investigation, identification, and rescue of victims of human trafficking, or (2) supplemental funding for trafficking victims service providers of task forces formed under the FY 2004 Bureau of Justice Assistance solicitation.

By statute, grants under this program may be awarded to states, units of local government, tribal governments, and nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations. For the purposes of this program, a unit of local government is a city, county, township, town, borough, parish, village, or other general-purpose political subdivision of a state, including a local court, law enforcement agency, or prosecutor's office. Under the terms of the grant announcement, the direct grantees are required to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with key partners, including trafficking victim service providers and the U.S. Attorney's Office in their district, to establish the task force in a manner that ensures collaboration and coordination with all of the critical components necessary to address this problem. The call for concept papers is open to all jurisdictions.



U.S. Department of Justice  
Civil Rights Division

950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20530-0001

[www.usdoj.gov](http://www.usdoj.gov)

**TO APPLY OR TO VIEW THE CALL FOR CONCEPT PAPERS/SOLICITATION, GO TO:**

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/fundopps.htm>

**TO SEE A LIST OF CURRENTLY FUNDED TASK FORCES, GO TO:**

[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/pressreleases/DOJ04760.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/pressreleases/DOJ04760.htm)  
<<file://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/pressreleases/DOJ04760.htm>>.

**QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS CALL FOR CONCEPT PAPERS MAY BE DIRECTED TO:**

Marie Martinez, OVC Program Specialist, at 202-514-5084 or  
by e-mail at [Marie.Martinez@usdoj.gov](mailto:Marie.Martinez@usdoj.gov)

or

Lon McDougal, Policy Advisor, BJA Policy Office, at 202-307-3678 or  
by e-mail at [Lonn.R.McDougal@usdoj.gov](mailto:Lonn.R.McDougal@usdoj.gov)